

KENTUCKY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION COALITION LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION

Dear [Rep. Chandler; Sen. McConnell; Sen. Bunning],

We are writing to express our continuing desire to see much-needed reform to provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act (including its 2006 reauthorizing legislation) and the 2008 FISA Amendments Act, which have diminished Americans' privacy over the last eight years.

We are especially concerned that the FBI issued 192,499 National Security Letter requests from 2003-2006. In its 2007 and 2008 reports, the OIG documented widespread errors and abuses that, if permitted to go unchecked, endanger the future of our democratic society

Because we are committed to protecting the Constitutional rights that are essential to a free and open democracy, we urge you to do everything in your power to work for reforms, including:

- Allowing Section 215 to sunset, returning to previous standards
- Amending the National Security Letter authority so that it can be directed only at people who have a connection to terrorism or espionage
- Allowing nondisclosure orders of limited scope and duration only when necessary to protect national security and only upon the authority of a court, and ensure that targets of such orders have a meaningful right to challenge them before a fair and neutral arbiter
- Amending the mass international communications collection program authorized under the FISA Amendments Act of 2008 to better protect the privacy of Americans' phone calls and e-mail messages
- Providing greater oversight of the uses of the various provisions of the USA PATRIOT Act

We thank you for your past efforts to protect civil liberties, and welcome further discussion on this important topic.

Sincerely,

Kentucky Library Association